WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Congressman John W. Olver (D-1st District) announced that he has nominated 18 high school students from the 1st Congressional District of Massachusetts to U.S. Military Academies. These include West Point Academy, the Air Force Academy, the Naval Academy, the Merchant Marine Academy and the Coast Guard Academy. Each candidate must receive a nomination from a federal official in order to be considered by the academy's admissions office.

"I was very impressed with the individuals I nominated and I am pleased to announce their names," Congressman John Olver said. "I applaud their commitment to their country and to continuing their education."

To be considered, candidates must be between the ages of 17 and 23, single with no legal dependents, and must have a strong academic record. The various academies have differing additional requirements. Generally, beyond submitting a written application, nominees must also pass a rigorous physical aptitude test in order to be considered.

"Although this nomination does not necessarily mean admission, these students should be very proud of their accomplishments. I am pleased that the 1st Congressional District has produced such a promising crop of young people," Olver added.

Nominees will learn if they have been admitted this spring. The nominees are listed below, followed by their hometown, and the academy to which they were nominated:

Nicholas Andrus, North Hatfield, Naval Academy []

Francis Ascioti, Westfield, Naval Academy

Timothy Boersig, Westfield, Naval Academy

Michael Burgoyne, Townsend, Air Force Acadamy & Naval Academy

Josiah Smith, West Chesterfield, Naval Academy

Korey Whitaker, Chester, Naval Academy

Adam Wolfe, Southwick, West Point

###